

the Greater Cleveland community. Dr. Milagros Acevedo Cruz, Michelle Melendez, Mario Ortiz, David Plata, Raquel Santiago, Lydia Esparra, Orlando Salinas, Ana Garcia, Yolanda Perdomo, and Jundy Caraballo. I hope that my fellow colleagues will join me in honoring these individuals and praising the Puerto Rican people as they celebrate Constitution Day.

IN RECOGNITION OF KATHLEEN S. BLACKMAR

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the recognition of a Warren post office employee who was recently recognized as the Federal Employee of the Year in Rhode Island. Kathleen S. Blackmar was honored at the 27th annual awards ceremony held at the BankBoston Operations Center in East Providence by the Federal Executive Council of Rhode Island. She was nominated for the award by Warren postmaster Erick B. Lawson.

Kathy has become known as a very valuable asset to the Warren post office. In her job as custodian, she is responsible for making building repairs, performing janitorial duties, and assisting customers with lost or broken post office box keys. Her fellow workers share the belief that she has a work ethic that cannot be identified by level of job title. She has educated herself about boiler repair and diagnosis and she makes minor repairs to the office's fleet of vehicles. On top of this, Ms. Blackmar maintains and landscapes the grounds and clears snow. She readily has given her time to serve as coordinator for the Combined Federal Campaign, the annual drive for the contribution to community organizations. She has also coordinated the post office's Toys for Tots campaign and the annual "Christmas Wish List."

I am proud to recognize Kathleen Blackmar as an outstanding individual and to commend her for her contribution to public service.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL 100-MILE RELAY RECORD

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 1998

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of our colleagues the 30th anniversary of an extraordinary high school track and field record that still stands today. In June, 1968, eight members of Lockport Senior High School in Lockport, New York ran the 100-mile relay in a time of seven hours, 27 minutes and 53.6 seconds. This mark beat the previous New York State record by a beat nine minutes. It is also an astonishing 26 minutes 36.5 seconds faster than the existing world record as listed in the Guinness Book of Records. And that so-called world record involved 100 runners—not eight.

Members of the record-setting relay team, led by Coach John Chew, were Jim Rycyna,

Charlie Quagliano, Bob Brown, Brian Brooks, Jeff Helshoff, Frank Pfeil, George Bickford, and Jeff Watkins. Each of these student-athletes ran 12½ miles in spurts of 110 yards, 220 yards, and 440 yards. The overall average time was less than four minutes and 30 seconds per mile.

Mr. Speaker, the State of New York recently passed a resolution congratulating the 1968 Lockport High School relay team, and the Mayor of Lockport issued a proclamation commending their achievement. I too am pleased to recognize these eight men on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of their 100-mile relay record, and ask all Members to join me in congratulating them as they reunite this month to celebrate their tremendous athletic performance.

OUR WAR ON DRUGS BEST WEAPON: GOOD PERSONNEL—HELP, DON'T HINDER, OUR CUSTOMS EMPLOYEES

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I had the honor and privilege to speak to the National Treasury Employees Union and other national law enforcement groups. I outlined the successes that Customs employees have had in our War on Drugs and spoke of my opposition to H.R. 3809, which would undermine that success.

In my own district, Robert Hood, a Customs inspector, is considered one of the "Best of the West" in Operation Brass Ring, a concerted effort to increase drug seizures among all agencies policing the border. From February through June of this year, Robert lead the San Diego region in drug interdiction, seizing more than 8,745 pounds of marijuana and 11 pounds of methamphetamine. Robert Hood is joined by other heroes—in the San Diego Customs area, the valiant men and women policing the border have been responsible for nearly tripling the amount of cocaine and methamphetamine seized, while the number of seizures of marijuana have nearly doubled.

In just the past six months, Customs personnel have made an incredible impact on the amount of drugs getting to our streets and into our children's pockets! That is why the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, and the Border Patrol Council, among others, join me in opposing H.R. 3809 and asking those who support it, "What could you be thinking?"

The bill undermines the partnership that has flourished between Customs personnel and their managers in the successful drug interdiction efforts. It would restrict employees' rights to have significant input on safety issues—and it would cut their pay. How does cutting Customs employees' pay for working their regular night shifts help to bolster our War on Drugs? I simply don't understand it.

I support the provisions in H.R. 3809 that boost 1999 funding for Customs, and I urge the Senate and the President to also support an increase in Customs funding, while rejecting the provisions that cut Customs personnel negotiating rights and their hazard pay for essential nighttime shifts.

H.R. 3809 gives us tools to fight the War on Drugs, but puts those who will use the tools in straightjackets. We will lose the War on Drugs and waste taxpayers' money if we spend money on expensive, cutting-edge equipment at the same time we undermine employee morale and labor standards.

Listen to the partners in the War on Drugs—police officers know they cannot win the war if Customs efforts to keep drugs from entering the country are thwarted. I support the front-line soldiers in the War on Drugs—our Customs personnel—and urge support only for legislation that enhances, rather than detracts, from their good work.

IN HONOR OF DR. MARGARET STORTZ AND REV. VICTOR POSTOLAKI, MINISTERS OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with honor that I share with you the accomplishments and religious commitment of Dr. Margaret Stortz and Rev. Victor Postolaki, who will be honored by the First Church Religious Science on Sunday, July 26 in Oakland, California.

Dr. Stortz will be stepping down as senior minister after 14 years and Rev. Postolaki, as assistant minister after 12 years of service. As ministers each has provided guidance and support to its congregants and the residents of Oakland and the East Bay.

As leaders of First Church, they encouraged community outreach on an economic level and have generated monies to assist the survivors of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, the Oakland Firestorm. Their fund-raising efforts such as the "Love Project" in conjunction with Allen Temple Baptist Church assisted in the rebuilding of the Black churches burned in the south, the North Dakota Flood, and the Mexico Earthquake. They have, through the church volunteer programs, arrange for the creation and distribution of grocery baskets and food vouchers for numerous economically disadvantaged families and organizations servicing this constituency.

They worked with Bay Area Ministries to make Oakland a better community for all its residents. Both were concerned about youth and were actively involved in programs that educated our children specially the teen empowering program serving the East Bay.

Dr. Stortz served as Assistant Minister in 1981 and as the senior minister since 1984. In 1983, she was elected President of the Northern California United Church of Religious Science. Over the years Dr. Stortz held numerous offices within the United Church of Religious Science organization as member of the International Board of Trustees and the President of the United Church of Religious Science.

Besides her ministerial duties she is an author and has an extensive list of works. Her written works include *Start Living Every Day of Your Life*, *How to Enjoy Life and Flight into Life*. She has produced *Seven Spiritual Laws of Success* based on Deepak Chopra's Book of the *You Prosper, We Prosper*—a 10-day